

Carlisle School Committee
Minutes
June 3, 2009
Carlisle School Robbins Library
7:00 PM

Present – School Committee: Wendell Sykes, Vice Chair; Bill Fink, Louis Salemy, Dale Ryder arrived at 8:10 pm.

Present – School Administration: Marie Doyle, Superintendent; Joyce Mehaffey, Principal; Patrice Hurley, Principal; Karen Slack, Director of Student Support Services; Claire Wilcox, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Wendell Sykes called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Sykes welcomed everyone to the meeting, and asked if any members of the public had comments. There were no comments.

Volunteer Recognition

Each year the school recognizes volunteers to be inducted into the Carlisle School Volunteer Hall of Fame. Ms. Doyle thanked all the volunteers who contribute so much to the school and particularly recognized the following individuals: Paul Anagnostopoulos, Gio DiNicola, Cynthia Sorn, Kris Tocci, and Shelley Walton. She summarized their many contributions to the school and thanked them for their efforts.

Review of minutes

Louis Salemy made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 20, 2009. Bill Fink seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of approving the minutes.

Administrator Reports

Elementary Principal Patrice Hurley reported on the following:

- Growing into Kindergarten program
- Class plays and authors' breakfasts
- Spring concerts

Middle School Principal Joyce Mehaffey reported on the following:

- 8th grade New York trip meeting and trip

- 6th grade public service announcements

Karen Slack, Director of Student Support Services reported on the following:

- SEPAC work to bring disability awareness to the student body focusing on how all kids are the same
- Coordinated Review report stating the we are in full compliance and have completed all corrective actions

Members'/Committee Reports

Regional School Committee. Mr. Salemy reported on a meeting in which the high school budget was cut by almost \$600,000. Fees were increased, 5 teachers were cut, central office staff was cut, and other miscellaneous cuts were made.

Ms. Ryder gave Ms. Doyle a copy of a parent survey done by the regional school committee.

School Building Committee. Contracts have been reviewed and a meeting is being set up with the MSBA. The MSBA has agreed that Carlisle is now in the schematic design phase of the project.

Information/Discussion Items

- A. **School Council -- School Improvement Plan.** School Council members Sandy Kelly, Mary Beth Stevenson, Linda Vanaria, Muffy Szegvari, Joyce Mehaffey, and Patrice Hurley were present at the meeting and discussed the work they had done during the year. They reviewed the accomplishments listed in the School Improvement Plan and discussed how the Plan ties directly to the District Goals. Ms. Stevenson reviewed the executive summary of the plan and listed the goals met during the year in four areas: provide a rich curriculum in order to maximize student learning; build a community of respect in a safe and healthy learning environment, integrate technology; meet space needs and manage the resources of the Carlisle Public Schools.

Ms. Hurley stated that the Council had enjoyed working with the Strategic Planning Team. Mr. Sykes stated that he was delighted to see that the SIP is more in line with the District Goals and also that there is an emphasis on cooperation and coordination with Concord in curriculum areas. Mr. Salemy added that the document is a great improvement on the previous document. Ms. Doyle thanked the Council for their work.

- B. **District Goals.** The District Goals have been consolidated from 6 to 4, and Ms. Doyle described the changes in the Goals.

- C. **Bus roundtables.** Ms. Doyle presented the slide show she had prepared for the bus roundtables. She described the meetings and the process followed in analyzing the number of buses required. She thanked Pat Simon, Mary Beth Stevenson, Nicole Bloomfield, Mary Storrs, and Leslie Doig, parent volunteers who helped with the analysis and planning of the new routes. She also thanked Claire Wilcox who has stepped in to handle the bus project following Heidi Zimmerman's departure.

As a result of the parent support at the meetings and the data that has been analyzed, Ms. Doyle recommended that the number of buses be reduced to 6 for next year. She and Mr. Salemy noted that our contract with the bus company is such that we can add a bus if determined to be necessary next year. Mr. Salemy stated that he thinks this is a great outcome and thanked the community for supporting this. Mr. Salemy further thanked Pat Simon and Claire Wilcox for their work on this. All members present fully supported the move to 6 buses.

- D. **Budget update.** Ms. Doyle described the status of the current year's budget and the status of the budget for next year. Mr. Fink asked if we would be hit badly with state cuts. Ms. Doyle stated that we are not as affected by circuit breaker cuts because of our in-house program, which is strong and we do not have as many out of district students.
- E. **ARRA stimulus funds.** Ms. Doyle discussed the stimulus funds available to the school and what the plans are for using the available money, including the IDEA grant money, which must be partially used for special education.
- F. **Summer curriculum work.** Ms. Doyle reported that the teachers have submitted their proposals for summer work, which are being evaluated by the principals. An important part of this year's summer work will be the 2-day Lester Laminack seminar to be held in August.
- G. **Superintendent's evaluation.** Mr. Sykes discussed the process of evaluating the superintendent, and read a summary of her evaluation. The committee identified teacher evaluation as an area for improvement for the future. Her strengths lie in the areas of communication with the public and with the School Committee. She works tirelessly for the benefit of the Carlisle Public Schools and is a strong advocate for the schools.

Communications/Correspondence

The following items were reviewed:

- Thank you letter to the 6th grade team for the School Committee presentation
- Thank you letter to Rachel Levy and Courtney Hadley for their School Committee presentation

- MASC Legislative Bulletin
- MASC Newsletter
- Letter from David Zuckerman requesting that his daughter be allowed to attend second grade next year at CPS.

Mr. Salemy made a motion to approve the request of David Zuckerman that his daughter attend the Carlisle School next year. Ms. Ryder seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Marie Doyle reported on the following:

- CASE activities
- Superintendent meetings regarding budget and stimulus funds
- Retirement parties for Steve Bober -- CSA and teachers
- CSA luncheon
- Demo of new electronic whiteboard

Action Items

- A. Ms. Ryder made a motion to change the signature policy to require just 2 member signatures on the warrant for the months of July and August. Mr. Fink seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor.**

Other Business

Ms. Wilcox distributed the grid with possible meeting dates for the summer and recommended the week of August 17th for the meeting.

Members signed the Weston and Sampson contract for operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Koski signed the 403b provider agreements.

Ms. Wilcox asked for clarification regarding the set-up for the June 10th meeting. A table will be set up on the stage for the School Committee.

Citizens' Comments

Mary Storrs of Brook Street asked that we clarify the time of the special meeting with the consultant on June 10, 2009.

Don Rober asked for clarification about the summer curriculum work that would be occurring over the summer.

Cynthia Sorn asked when the School Committee would have the report from the consultants regarding the union. Mr. Salemy stated that he did not know.

Adjournment

There was no additional business, and **Mr. Salemy made a motion to adjourn the meeting to executive session for contract discussions. Mr. Fink seconded the motion, and all members present voted in favor as follows: Mr. Fink, yes; Mr. Salemy, yes; Mr. Sykes, yes; Ms. Ryder, yes.**

The public meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire M. Wilcox
Assistant to the Superintendent